

**In the United States Patent and Trademark Office**

Serial Number:  
App'n. Filed:  
Applicant(s): Michael J. Ceglia  
App'n. Title: HOOK-FLASH SIMULATION IN PARALLEL WITH OFF-HOOK DEVICES  
Examiner:  
Group Art Unit:

1c971 U.S. PTO  
09/954995  
09/18/01

Mailed: 9/18/01  
At: Post Office, Cherry Hill, NJ 08034

**Information Disclosure Statement**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, District of Columbia 20231

Sir:

Attached is a completed Form PTO-1449 and copies of the pertinent parts of the references listed on this form. Following are comments on those references, including comments on any non-English-language references pursuant to Rule 98:

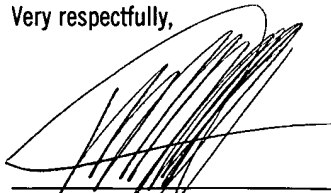
**Fechalos**, in each of his two referenced patents, shows telephone systems that use hook-flash signaling.

**Stein** shows a telephone control device that uses hook-flash signaling.

**Kuok** shows a telephone answering machine that uses hook-flash signaling.

All of the above references describe "conventional" hook-flash means and methods, each of which requires interruption of its associated loop circuit in order to decrease loop current below its detection threshold. None describes the method of the current invention, using a counter-signal source to oppose current flow so as to decrease that current below its detection threshold.

Very respectfully,



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Enc.: PTO-1449 & References